

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:	)	
	)	
EFFENHAUSER et al.	)	Before the Examiner
	)	Szmal, Brian Scott
Application No. 09/943,080	)	
	)	Group Art Unit
Filed August 30, 2001	)	3736
	)	
SYSTEM FOR WITHDRAWING SMALL	)	
AMOUNTS OF BODY FLUID	)	Confirmation No. 7687

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 14, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated September 14, 2006, please enter the following amendments and remarks in the above-mentioned patent application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any extensions of time as well as any additional fees or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.